

1. A medical image diagnosing support apparatus comprising:

a first extraction means which extracts a body region of a subject from a tomographic image of the subject acquired by a medical tomographic apparatus;

a second extraction means which ~~extracts~~ automatically (a) searches the tomographic image for a predetermined range of CT values corresponding to an abdominal wall muscle layer to determine from a histogram of the CT values in the predetermined range a most frequently occurring CT value in the predetermined range, (b) sets a threshold by utilizing the most frequently occurring CT value in the predetermined range, (c) utilizes the threshold to extract an abdominal wall muscle layer region as a non-adipose region from the body region and (d) sets a line surrounding the ~~non-adipose~~ abdominal wall muscle layer region automatically;

a third extraction means which extracts a total body adipose region from the body region;

a separation means which separates the total body adipose region into a visceral adipose region and a subcutaneous adipose region based on whether a specified region is located inside or outside of the line surrounding the ~~non-adipose~~ abdominal wall muscle layer region; and

a display control means which controls display of the tomographic image on an image display device with clear indication of the visceral adipose region and the subcutaneous adipose region.